

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3568
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2017
Survey on Drug Abuse
Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted an advanced survey on the extent, pattern and trend of drug abuse among the citizens;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether the said survey has been conducted after a gap of more than fifteen years;
- (d) whether the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) was co-sponsored by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to conduct pilot surveys in some States to assess the extent of drug abuse and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether tobacco and gutkha addicts had also been covered in this survey and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) to (f): The last National Survey on the extent, pattern and trend of drug abuse was sponsored by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in the year 2000-2001 and its report was published in 2004. It was estimated that about 732 lakh persons in India were users of alcohol and drugs. Of these 87 lakh used Cannabis, 20 lakh used opiates and 625 lakh were users of Alcohol. However, the sample size being small (40,697 males within the age group of 12-60 years both in rural and urban areas) vis-à-vis the country's population, the estimates can at best be taken as indicative only. Thereafter, no National Survey on drug abuse has been conducted.

In 2007, the Ministry had requested National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) to conduct a nationwide survey on the extent, pattern and trend of drug abuse. A pilot survey was conducted by NSSO during March-April, 2010 in three cities viz. Mumbai, Amritsar and Imphal. UNODC was not involved in the pilot survey.

The Ministry has, in the month of August, 2016, assigned the work of conducting the National Survey on Extent and Pattern of Substance Use in India to National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi. The Drugs/Substance which are proposed to be surveyed includes Tobacco.